

# THE FARNUM TRIAL

## A Vigorously Fought Contest Last Week.

### ENDS IN VERDICT "NOT GUILTY"

#### J. B. Wylie Makes Confession That He Gathered \$28,000 in Graft—How Much on Each Grade.

Columbia, Special.—Decking that out of idle curiosity he had marked one of the hundred dollar bills tendered Henry Samuels, in payment of a draft September 15, 1906, and that this bill was returned for deposit by J. B. Wylie, along with bills to the amount of \$1,120, Robert Gage, cashier of the Commercial Bank, of Chester, witness for the State in the Farnum case, sprung the first sensation of the alleged graft trials in the Court of Sessions Tuesday afternoon. The State announced before calling Mr. Gage to the stand that it would connect this testimony with the accused. This transaction is in line with the charge in the indictment that the defendant sent Samuels the draft for \$1,125 to be paid to J. B. Wylie, who was then a member of the State board of control. The testimony of Mr. Gage was the most important of the opening day's happenings in the case of the State against James S. Farnum, which was being tried.

The selection of the jury, contrary to expectations was quickly accomplished. The defendant, James S. Farnum, was in the Court room seated near his attorney, just back of Messrs. Nelson, Cochran and Hammond, who are conducting for him the active defense. Mr. Farnum appeared to be in the best of spirits during the progress of the preliminary work of the trial, and in the afternoon exhibited much interest when the jurors were being selected, and later when the first witnesses for the State were put on the stand.

Mr. Robert Gage testified again as to the payment of the draft for \$1,125, and the State sought to trace this instrument from the time it was presented at the Chester bank to the office of the accused at the Consumers' Beer Bottling Establishment. Witnesses were placed on the stand, who testified that they had searched the files of this company upon which the draft is alleged to have been drawn, but that the alleged draft could not be found up to Wednesday.

The defense used arguments of weight and came very near halting the State upon some of the questions involved as to the procedure and introduction of evidence. This fight was waged hard and slowly, and was very technical at times. The separate points were ruled upon by Judge Memminger with precision, and owing to the interposition of numerous objections the case did not proceed very rapidly during the morning hours.

A number of witnesses were examined on minor connecting links in the chain of evidence.

Mr. Wylie was made a star witness. The witness stated in reply to Mr. Abney that he was forty-one years of age, and was a member of the State board of control in 1906, being elected in February and commissioned in March. The list of awards made in the various meetings of the board were next introduced. Mr. Wylie stated that he as a member of the board, had dealings with the defendant as to bids and awards. Also that the defendant at the time represented the Anheuser-Busch Brewing Company. Mr. Wylie named other concerns whom he said defendant represented. These included Gallagher & Burton, Richland Distilling Company, William Lanahan & Sons, John F. Backem & Co., Big Four Distilling Company, and awards were found in the March 22 minutes for the Anheuser Company. Other dates were taken, including April 12, May 15, June 15, etc., and the awards were read. The concerns alleged to have been represented by the defendant received awards according to the record, and the amounts were read to the jury by Mr. Wylie. When this was concluded, the same tedious process was gone through as to the bids, after Mr. Abney had explained to the jury the status under which the board acted. The bids were found for the various times and awards made.

The defendant was in the Court room during the entire day. He again manifested much interest in every stage of the proceedings. The board of directors referred to by Mr. Wylie is the last State dispensary board, composed of Jodie M. Rawlinson, chairman; John Black and J. B. Wylie.

On Thursday admitting upon the witness stand that he himself had accepted various amounts of money to influence his vote as member of the State dispensary board of control. Joseph B. Wylie directly connected the \$1,125 draft previously referred to in the trial with the defendant, James Farnum, stating that Henry Samuels had cashed the draft for him and turned the cash over. Put through a grilling cross-examination by the defense, the witness gave as his reason for going on the stand the assurance of his attorney that if he told the whole truth he would not be prosecuted. "I want to set myself right before the people of the State," declared Mr. Wylie, "and I am going to tell the truth."

Mr. Wylie's testimony was the significant of the trial for the day. This, however, was not unexpected, as Mr. Wylie was known to have appeared before the grand jury when the dispensary indictments were handed out about two weeks ago. Mr. Wylie's testimony was in line with the charges made in the indictment. The defense's showing was an attempt to impeach the character of the witness by having him admit that he received gifts of money from agents of whiskey houses. This the defense succeeded in bringing out forcibly.

Henry Samuels was another witness for the State whose testimony was in keeping with the charges alleged, and as to the cashing of the draft alleged to have been sent by the defendant to Mr. Wylie.

The State closed its case at this stage. The defense gave Wylie a severe cross examination upon which a re-direct examination brought out startling figures.

The alleged arrangement as set out by Mr. Wylie was:

That on case goods bought from Farnum's firms Wylie was to receive \$1 per case, and upon bulk goods as follows:

Upon liquor costing \$1.47 per gallon, \$1.50 per barrel. On \$1.50 whiskey, \$2 per barrel. On \$1.60 whiskey, \$3 per barrel. On \$1.75 whiskey, \$6 per barrel. On \$1.85 whiskey, \$8 per barrel. On \$2 whiskey, \$13 per barrel. On \$2.15 whiskey, \$15 per barrel. On \$2.25 whiskey, \$17.50 per barrel. On \$2.50 whiskey, \$20 per barrel. On \$3 whiskey, \$25 per barrel.

These were the rebates that witness stated that were agreed upon as to whiskeys purchased and ordered out.

On beer the alleged rebate was \$1 per barrel, and on champagne \$2 per case and other wines 50 cents per case.

Jim Farnum is "not guilty." So said the "jury of his peers," Saturday that tried the "beer king" of South Carolina, the flashing figure of the old dispensary days, the man accused of bribing former officers of that happily dead institution, the State dispensary, the man who was shown to have received in six months \$854,000 worth of business from a concern that did a business of about \$7,000,000 annually.

The jury was in consultation almost six hours. It retired just after Judge Memminger made his charge, which consumed about 25 minutes. This was about 10:30 o'clock Saturday morning, and just after court convened at 4 o'clock for the afternoon session, the verdict was rendered.

It could not be said that the verdict was absolutely unexpected, that is, beyond a doubt, but it was extremely surprising that it should have been brought in such a comparatively short time. But as will be seen from the statement of one of the jurors the minds of the men were practically made up when they went into the jury room.

In consideration of lack of time at this session to try the other case against Farnum and a number of other cases on the docket the further procedure against Farnum was laid over.

#### How the Jury Stood.

It was learned from one of the jurors Saturday night that there was only one ballot taken, and that on this the result was 11 to 1 for acquittal, the vote being taken immediately after going into conference. He stated that the man who did not join his vote was not absolutely for conviction, but undecided as to certain evidence and that the reason that the jury remained for any length of time was because this man had to be talked to. The juror who gave this information also stated that the chief grounds the jury had for acquittal were because it believed that actual bribery had not been proved, holding that while money had passed it had not been shown to be corruptly used, but might have been passed in the actual course of business.

The other cases in the dispensary scandal are as follows:

Case No. 50 charges J. W. Rawlinson, J. B. Wylie, John Black, James A. Farnum, John T. Early, Morton A. Goodman and H. Lee Solomons with conspiracy to defraud.

Case No. 51 arraigns M. A. Goodman, L. W. Boykin, J. B. Towill, W. O. Tatum and Dennis Weiskopf for conspiracy to defraud the State out of \$22,500 in the label deal.

No. 52 charges John Black with accepting a bribe.

In case No. 53, James S. Farnum is charged with bribery.

No. 54 on the calendar is the case against J. S. Farnum, J. M. Rawlinson, J. B. Wylie and John Black, conspiracy to defraud the State out of \$4,800.

No. 55 is the case against Dennis Weiskopf, perjury. No attorneys are named as yet.

Of these, only the case against Black for accepting a bribe will be tried at this term, it being set for Wednesday.

#### Laurens Men Pledge Money For Trolley.

Laurens, Special.—At a citizens' meeting here stock subscription for the proposed interurban trolley line between Clinton and Laurens was begun a few days ago, something over \$10,000 being pledged. Committees were appointed to make a close canvass of this city for further subscriptions. A resolution was passed declaring it the sense of the meeting that efforts would be made to raise \$50,000 in Laurens and Clinton.

# PALMETTO HAPPENINGS

## News Notes of General Interest From All Parts of the State.

### WYLIE'S CONFESSION OF GUILT

#### Admits That He Received \$28,000 in Dispensary Graft.

Columbia, Special.—Testifying that he had as member of the State dispensary board voted for purchase from those houses which offered and paid rebates, Joseph B. Wylie, of Chester, former member of the board Thursday made a clean-cut confession giving not only the details of the transactions in which he received commissions from Farnum, but also the whole scheme of commissions which had been agreed on should be paid on purchase by the board.

Mr. Wylie stood a grueling cross-examination at the hands of Col. P. H. Nelson without flinching and without deviating in any way from the story told in his direct testimony. He declared that before his election to the board in 1906, Farnum had approached him and said Wylie could make a good deal on the side if elected, and that Farnum had contributed \$500 to his campaign expenses. He declared that there was later made an arrangement between Farnum and himself by which payments were made through drafts payable to Henry Samuels, now mayor of Chester, who cashed the drafts and turned the proceeds over to Wylie. He would merely tell Samuels to get the money for him on an order and he knew that Samuels would get it. Samuels himself represented liquor houses in one way or another.

Mr. Wylie said that in eleven months' service on the board he had made over \$28,000 in this way. When he went on the board he was worth from \$15,000 to \$20,000, but could not say how much he is worth now, as he had spent a good deal of the money made through the dispensary.

As to the motive for his confession, his attorney, Mr. Paul Hemphill, of Chester, had assured him that if he would tell the truth he would not be prosecuted, but he had not been promised immunity from civil suit to recover the money for the State.

#### Interesting Figures on Examinations.

Columbia, Special.—Regular teachers' examinations occur every May and October. The results of the examination held May 14th show some interesting facts. Seven hundred and ninety-four whites and 552 negroes took the examination. Fifty-seven white men and 142 white women failed first grade certificate. Forty-six white and 236 white women were granted a first grade certificate. Forty-six white men and 156 white women were granted a second grade certificate. Thirty-six white men and 74 white women were granted third grade certificates.

One hundred and forty-seven negro men and 405 negro women took the examination. Seventy-five men and 213 women failed. Four men and eleven women secured first grade certificates, 32 men and 48 women took second grade certificates and 32 men and 132 women took third grade.

#### Buys Powerful Automobile.

Gaffney, Special.—Mr. H. D. Wheat purchased last May a Pierce-Arrow, 70-horsepower automobile, but owing to the orders which were booked ahead of his, the company has been unable to fill the order. The factory is now putting the finishing touches on the machine, and hopes to have it ready for the exhibition in Atlanta on the 9th of November. The car is a seven passenger vehicle. The trimmings and finishings will be of a nickel, and the machine will be one of the most luxurious as well as one of the most expensive cars in the country, as it will cost fully equipped, \$7,500.

#### Planting Cover Crops.

Columbia, Special.—Since the announcement several days ago to the effect that over 200 farmers of the State were planting winter cover crops under the direction of Prof. A. G. Smith of the United States bureau of plant industry, who has charge of the work in this State, many personal enquiries have been made at the office of Mr. Smith for additional information.

#### Anderson Men Presented.

Anderson, Special.—In its presentation handed to Judge Aldrich Thursday afternoon the grand jury presented J. T. Holleman, former cashier of the Bank of Anderson, for breach of trust with fraudulent intent, and furnished the names of the officials of the bank as witnesses to prove the charge.

It also presented E. B. Rice, Jr., for violating the act prohibiting the business commonly known as a bucket shop. The names of the officers of the Bank of Anderson are furnished as witnesses to prove the charge.

#### Witness Held on Warrant.

Anderson, Special.—A sensation was caused in the general sessions court Wednesday afternoon when W. L. Massey, stepping down from the witness stand, was arrested on a warrant issued in Elberton, Ga., charging disposing of property under mortgage. Massey was prosecuting his wife and Drew Hayes for living together unlawfully. At the suggestion of the solicitor the jury returned a verdict of not guilty.

# CORN CONTEST FOR BOYS

## Prizes to Be Offered For the Best Corn Raised on Acre of Ground.

Columbia, Special.—Boys' agricultural corn clubs have been organized in several counties of the State. The work will be watched with interest as it is the initiation of the work of teaching agricultural pursuits in the schools. Down in Aiken county the club will be organized during the fall; all boys under 18 years of age, students in any of the schools, will be eligible to membership. The first thing to be accomplished by the club will be the inauguration of a corn contest. This will be ready for operation in the spring. Mr. Seigler, the county superintendent of education, hopes to raise at least four substantial prizes to be awarded for the best corn raised on one acre of ground. These four prizes will be classified as follows:

1. The largest yield of corn on one acre.
2. For the best 10 ears of corn, in the yield from one acre.
3. For the largest yield for the least money, on one acre.
4. For the best report made, the report to be fully itemized.

Next fall an exhibit will be held in Aiken and judges will be named to pass upon the exhibits and award the prizes to the successful contestants.

The contest is but the beginning. Later on, after the club gets into good working order, contests of various kinds will be held for stimulating interest in agriculture and the work is calculated to keep many boys on the farms who sometimes get dissatisfied and seek work in the cities.

The contests are to be conducted strictly along industrial lines. Government bulletins and matter relating to corn production will be distributed among the club members. None but club members will be qualified to enter any contest.

The success of this venture will be awaited by all sections of the State and may be the means for many other clubs to be organized.

#### To Hold Another Election.

Newberry, Special.—It seems that in the election on the question of issuing \$40,000 worth of bonds for the purpose of extending the water and sewer systems of the city of Newberry, held several weeks ago, that the same error was committed that happened in the election on a similar question in the city of Gaffney. Judge Woods of Chicago has advised the purchasers of the bonds voted by Newberry that because of some technicality they are not valid and the purchasers decline to take the bonds. The error seems to have been that the question was submitted to the voters to vote on water and sewer bonds together, when the vote should have been taken separately. The error, of course, is a very slight one, but will necessitate another election on the question, which will be ordered at once. As soon as this is done the bonds will be all right and no further questions raised, but work will proceed on the installation of the extensions to the water and sewer plants, the contracts having already been awarded.

#### Burnett Incarcerated in the Jail at Aiken.

Aiken, Special.—W. Masen Burnett arrived in Aiken late Tuesday afternoon in charge of Constable Pierce Howard of Graniteville. Young Burnett was commercial bookkeeper for the Bank of Graniteville, and when the accounts of that institution were found short he was charged with misappropriating about \$7,800 of the bank's funds. He was arrested in Chattanooga Monday.

He was lodged in the Aiken jail. The young man is only 18 years of age.

#### Clemson's Fertilizer Tag Income.

Columbia, Special.—From June 20, 1908, to July 1, 1909 Clemson college derived \$190,178.09 from the sale of fertilizer tax tags, according to a statement prepared by Commissioner Watson. Twenty-five cents is realized from each ton. The total value of the fertilizer sold last year was \$15,715,041.

#### Snake Eats From Boy's Hand.

Chester, Special.—Mr. J. Martin Grant, of R. F. D. No. 2, who was in the city some days ago, told of a thrilling adventure at Mt. A. Ross Durham's, in which Mr. Durham's little son, Charlie, was subjected to a great peril from the presence of a deadly snake. The little fellow had gone asleep on the porch after supper, with a biscuit in his hand, when Mrs. Durham was horrified to see a tremendous highland moccasin nibbling at the biscuit and endeavoring to wrench it away. She jerked the boy back and a colored domestic dispatched the snake with a hoe.

#### Georgetown to Have Wireless Station.

Georgetown, Special.—It is currently rumored here that Georgetown will soon have a wireless telegraph station. A representative of the United Wireless Telegraph company was in the city Saturday, looking over the situation with a view of establishing a station here. It is understood that he was very favorably impressed with the prospects.

# GOV. JOHNSON DEAD

## His End Comes Peacefully—Greets Mrs. Johnson.

### BODY IN STATE AT ST. PAUL

#### Minnesota's People Manifest Their Deep Grief in Throngs of Bowed Heads and Lowered Flags.

Rochester, Minn., Special.—Governor John A. Johnson died at 3:24 a. m. Tuesday. Sympathy more than State-wide goes out to a small group of mourners in this little Minnesota town.

After battling against death with determined resistance for almost a week, Governor Johnson's life had a peaceful ending.

The last thing Governor Johnson did before lapsing into unconsciousness one and a half hours before his death, was to take his wife affectionately by the hand and weakly whisper: "Well, Nora, I made a good fight, but I guess I've got to go."

Then as the last gleam of intelligence began to flicker he pressed her hand gently to his cheek in a parting caress as he prepared to obey the divine will.

One of the most remarkable tributes ever paid to the memory of a public



Governor John A. Johnson.

man in Minnesota was accorded the late Governor.

From the hour that the Governor's death was first publicly announced by tolling bells in Rochester, all usual public activity was abandoned. All banks, stores and offices were closed and buildings were draped in black and purple crepe.

Governor Johnson's body was escorted to a special train for St. Paul by a throng of citizens from every walk of life. On the train were Mrs. Johnson, a few of her personal friends, State officers and friends of the late Governor. As the cortege passed down the street leading to the railway station, the escort lined up on either side with bared heads and the hundreds of people around the depot showed a like respect. Mayor Thompson had proclaimed it a day of public mourning. The mayor and councilmen acted as pall-bearers.

All the way along the route to St. Paul flags were at half mast and buildings draped with crepe. At Zumbrota the entire population of the town seemed to be at the station. A touching feature was the appearance of a large number of school children lined up along the platform, each provided with the national colors pointed downward. Similar receptions were accorded the special train at other points along the route.

At St. Paul the train was met by detachments of all the local companies of the national guard and an escort of police. In spite of a heavy downpour of rain the procession to the State Capitol with the militia acting as escort was witnessed by thousands of people.

At the Capitol the body was placed in the rotunda, where it remained in state until Wednesday afternoon, guarded by four sergeants, four corporals and four privates.

The funeral services were conducted in the Presbyterian church at St. Paul's Thursday.

Gov. Johnson was in his 48th year. The death of his father left him a boy in poverty with little education and a mother to care for. He struggled heroically against the odds and by reading and later, being interested in the St. Peter's Herald, he gained a liberal education and developed into an orator sought for on many occasions.

His first political venture was a defeat but in the State Senate he made such a record that he was elected Governor as a Democrat, though the State was Republican by 80,000 majority. He was serving his third term when cut down by death though he protested against a third nomination. He was elected by an overwhelming vote.

His name was opposed to W. J. Bryan for President in the last Democratic convention and he was looked forward to as being the logical Democratic nominee for 1912.

The national mourns his untimely death.

# WASHINGTON NOTES

#### Postoffice Inspectors Tuesday raided the offices of the National Trust Company, of this city, procured a large amount of evidence pertaining to the operations of the concern and arrested Henry M. Lewis, manager and secretary-treasurer. Lewis was charged with using the mails in the furtherance of a scheme to defraud.

Consul General Hanna, of Monterey, has been authorized to draw on the Department of State for \$1,000 for the relief of the flood sufferers in Mexico. The money has been procured by the American National Red Cross. This is the third remittance to Mr. Hanna and makes the total sum \$5,000.

Whitelaw Reid, American Ambassador to Great Britain, called at the State Department Monday and paid his respects to Acting Secretary Huntington Wilson. Mr. Reid said that he had no particular business with the department, but made the customary call preparatory to returning to London by the steamer sailing Saturday from New York.

A telegram to the State Department from the United States Embassy in Rome states that the Italian Government is sending Admiral of the Fleet Alfonso di Brocchetti to represent Italy at the Hudson-Fulton celebration. The Admiral is a baron and an ex-Senator.

A cablegram of Tuesday says another massacre of Jews has occurred at Kieff, Russia. It began on the Jewish new year day and lasted for three days. Eighteen Jews were killed while they killed several Russians. It is estimated that there were 1,000 casualties.

Bids for more than \$1,000,000 worth of big guns, most of which will go to make up the armament of the new 26,000-ton battleships, the Wyoming and Arkansas, were opened Tuesday at the Bureau of Ordnance of the New Department. The specifications called for 10 12-inch guns, 12 6-inch and 20 5-inch. All are to be finished weapons.

The President has denied a pardon to John B. Powers, former superintendent of construction of the South & Western railroad, who was convicted at Statesville, N. C., of peonage and charged in the official papers with inflicting almost inconceivably brutal punishment on a negro employe. Powers was sentenced April 23 last to fifteen months' imprisonment.

Lee McClung, treasurer of Yale university, has been selected as Treasurer of the United States to succeed Charles H. Treat.

Representatives of the Nicaraguan government and the George E. Emery Company, of Boston, whose claim, growing out of the temporary annulment of the company's timber concession, has been pending for some time, have reached an agreement, the Nicaraguan government agreeing to pay the company \$600,000 for the purchase of the concession and the company waiving all claims against Nicaragua. The issue has been a notable one and the delay of Nicaragua in failing to come to some basis of settlement came near resulting in the breaking off of friendly relations between the United States and that country.

A startling situation has developed as the result of a taking of stock of the forestry resources of this country according to Treadwell Cleveland, Jr., expert in the bureau of forestry. It has been shown, Mr. Cleveland declares, that we are taking from the forest every year three and a half times as much wood as is added by the new growth.

Unless there is a modification of the new antiprooster ordinance, which stipulates that poultry must not be kept within 50 feet of any dwelling in the District of Columbia, there is likely to be a test case in the courts. The new ordinance also forbids the keeping of roosters in the District unless the consent of a majority of the neighbors of the owner of the rooster is obtained.

Protesting against the treatment they are receiving at the hands of the State and county officials of Oklahoma, 16,000 Oklahoma Indians, comprising the Creeks, Cherokees, Chickasaws and Choctaws, have caused a petition to be sent here seeking relief. The petition was discussed by the Indian Protective league in this city. It was decided to present the petition to congress at the next session. The petition declares that the county and State officials are arresting the Indians of the four nations and are taking their stock and movable possessions under the pretext that the Indians are violating the State laws.

That the last fiscal year was the banner year in the history of the patent office will be shown by the forthcoming annual report of the commission of patents. During the twelve months there were issued 34,332 patents or 229 more than the previous year and far in excess of the business ever done by that branch of the public service within a single year.